Regional Seminar on Developing Programmes for Implementing the 2008 SNA, the 2012 SEEA and Supporting Statistics in the Pacific Region

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Session II: Developing a programme for the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics:

Update of work in the Pacific by the SPC

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BACKGROUND

Phase 1 of TYPSS

- assist PICTs produce agreed core set of statistics across key sectors.

Currently SPC is assisting PICTs with the:

1. International Merchandise Trade Statistics
2. Business Registers
3. Establishment Surveys
4. Supply and Use Tables
5. Gross Domestic Product – Production Approach
6. Making greater use of Administrative Data
7. Trade Indices
8. Consumer Price Index
9. Standardising compilation systems and Classifications
10. Etcetera e.g. HIES, Data **dissemination** - Regional Information System Management (PRISM) and the establishment of the National Minimum Development Indicators (NMDI) database

WHAT'S BEING DONE?

SPC is addressing:

- Gap between available data and unmet demands
- Data being reliable and timely

Status of work

- Provision of Technical Assistance to countries since mid 2011

- One-week workshop in 2012:
    - Attended by data providers, users, compilers and development partners.
    - Recommended 15 tables to be produced:
        - use best practice for the compilation of IMTS
        - better analysis of IMTS data
        - use appropriate dissemination standards.

Countries are at different stages of implementing the recommendations from the Workshop.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS: MONITORING REPORT as @ 15.07.13

TABLE No	TABLE TITLE	% of responding countries completed the respective tables
0	Reconciliation between IMTS and General Merchandise on a BOP Basis	29
1	Balance of Trade – all items	100
2	Imports by HS	100
3	Domestic exports by HS	100
4	Re-exports by HS	100
5	Total exports by HS	86
6	Principal domestic exports	86
7	Principal imports	71
8	Balance of Trade by major partner countries	71
9	Trade by Region	57
10	Trade by trade agreements	43
11	Exports by SITC	57
12	Imports by SITC	57
13	Retained imports classified by BEC	43
14	Mode of transport	6

- One-week attachment of 19 trade statisticians:
    - Compilation of IMTS for American Samoa
    - A "work-in-progress" Pacific IMTS compilation guide

Work planned

- Continue providing TA
- Dialogue with the technical partners, in particular with the Oceania Customs Organisation and the Statistics New Zealand.

Business Statistics for GDP compilation

Business activities account for a substantial proportion of the total economic activity:

– establishment surveys be conducted in a five yearly cycle so that more regular GDP re-bases can reflect more accurately on structural developments in national economies.

Status of work

- **Fiji**
  – Upgrade of the business register (a joint project with the ABS)
  – Reviewed the industry-specific business survey questionnaires

- **Papua New Guinea**
  – Nationalised UNs ISIC Rev. 4 - PNGSIC 2013
  – Set-up Business Register with Fiji providing south-south type technical collaboration
  – Designed 19 industry-specific business survey questionnaires for their economic census.

- ## Work planned
  – Vanuatu in late 2013
  – Tonga and Solomon Islands in 2014.

SPC and ABS will collaborate on the Business Register in Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands.

Use of Administrative Data

- Advantages: available (and accessible) and comes at no cost. Good for extrapolating GDP in between the five-year economic census data.

- Disadvantages: often collected for purposes other than estimating GDP and may embody definitions that differ from those used in national accounts.

Status of work

Liaising with

- National Provident Funds to be able to source quarterly data on the compensation of employees and the annual count of employers and employees from "Pay as you earn (PAYE) administration records" maintained by National Provident Funds.

- Tax authorities for tax/VAT data

- Customs for merchandise Trade data

- Etcetera

Work planned

- SPC will continue looking into administrative data that can be used for the compilation of statistics.

USE OF SUPPLY AND USE FRAMEWORK IN NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

System of National Accounts (SNA) requires countries to construct *Supply and Use Table (SUT):*

- reconciled GDP estimates
  - more reliable, consistent and internationally comparable
    - » better basis for measuring economic output and growth and leads to informed decision/policymaking

The principle SUTs are based on are:

- products available for use in a country are either domestically produced or imported = total supply
- the total supply are used for intermediate consumption, final consumption expenditure, capital formation and exports. An example of a simplified SUT:

Goods and services	SUPPLY			USE								
	Domestic Production	Imports	Total supply	Intermediate consumption	Final consumption expenditure			Capital formation		Exports	Total use
					Household	Government	Non-profit institutions serving households	Gross fixed capital	Change in inventories		
Fish											
Canned fish											
Health services											
Total											

SUPPLY AND USE TABLE

Value Added Quadrant of the Supply and Use Table	
Gross value added	Domestic production less value added
Compensation of employees	
Consumption of fixed capital	
Taxes less subsidies	
Gross operating surplus/Mixed income	

Status of work

- providing technical assistance to Fiji:
    - Benefits
        - -Integrated GDP compilation
        - -Confrontation of data
        - -Identification of data gaps
        - -Consistency of supply and use at commodity level
        - -Valuation adjustments
        - -Efficient way to incorporate all basic data inconsistency

Work planned

-Assist Fiji Finalise SUT: report and analysis.

-Continue assisting countries desirous of constructing a SUT - In HOPS Samoa has voiced interest in having a SUT.

National Accounts

SPC is focusing on the regular production of national accounts including implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA) standards as PICTs No.1 priority.

Status of work

SPC has assisted Tuvalu, Nauru and Niue compile GDP using the production approach. In Niue, Samoa provided the South-South collaboration.

Work planned

GDP compilation has been planned for Niue.

Prices

SPC is assisting countries with the construction of the Consumer price index and the Import Price/Unit value index. Both are important in national accounts where they are used as inflators and deflators.

Status of work

- Peer reviewed the Consumer Price Indices in American Samoa and Fiji and suggested improvements.
- In Vanuatu reviewed procedures for data quality and developed seasonally adjusted series. Also provided on-job training for the counterpart in seasonal adjustment using specialised software, Demetra + that has features of X12 ARIMA and TRAMO SEATS.

Work planned

- CPI in Tonga
- Import Price Index in Kiribati and FSM
- CPI Rebase in Nauru

Work on standardising compilation systems and classification

Status of work

- **Classifications:**
  - **Expenditure Classification**: Pacific Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (PACCOICOP).
  - **Income Classification**: Pacific Classification of Household Income (PACCHI)
  - **Industry Classification**: PNGSIC.

- **Compilation systems:**
  - **Business Register:** Pacific Business Register Development Guide by ABS-SPC.
  - **Economic census questionnaires:** standardised industry-specific questionnaires developed. Adapted to countries.
  - **IMTS:** 15 Tables have been recommended to be produced by PICTs. Pacific International Merchandise Trade Statistics Compilation Guide is in the draft form.
  - **CPI:** Pacific Consumer Price Index Compilation Guide is in the draft form.

Work planned

- Regionalising ISIC – the suggestion came from Michael Andrews.

WHAT TO COME

-Tourism Satellite Accounts (USP)

- Trade in Services

-Informal Sector

-Agriculture, forestry and fishing statistics

-etcetera

Thanks for your attention ☺